

SUMMARIES

Early Socialist Movements in Europe. Organizational Consolidation and Membership Mobilization

by Stefano Bartolini

This essay deals with the relationship between political and corporate Socialism. That is, between forms of interest representation and of political representation in the early European Socialist movements, between 1860-1880 and 1940. Such theme is discussed along the two dimensions of organizational consolidation and membership mobilization. The first refers to the process of establishment and consolidation of specific political organizations in the corporate-group channel and in the electoral-party one and to the linkage set up between them. The second to the capacity of the same organizations to mobilize individuals in such channels as trade unions members, party members and voters.

The essay reviews and discussed the theme of political mobilization; then a conceptual framework of the cross-linkage between corporate, partisan and electoral mobilization is presented; thirdly, the national experience of European Socialist movements are briefly analyzed in reference to such conceptual scheme; finally, historical patterns of membership mobilisation are discussed, relating them to those of organizational consolidation.

Foreign Debt in Latin America. Actors, Conflicts and Coalitions

by Fabio Fossati

The debt crisis in the '80s favoured the liberal coalition, composed by creditors, economic power groups and domestic capital (banks, importers and traditional exporters), to the detriment of the protectionist coalition. In the first «incomplete» adjustment phase,

only wage earners were penalized, but in the structural adjustment phase at the end of the decade, both industrial producers and public entities were penalized, respectively by commercial opening and privatization plans. These actors did not crystallize conflict, except in the cases of the peronist union in Argentina and, at a lower level of intensity, of all the industrial business associations. Creditor banks had been long penalized only by Garcia in Peru, but in that case the domestic allied (the economic power groups) did not react to the moratorium. This conflict crystallized only in 1987 because of the banks' nationalization project.

Elections in Democratic Czechoslovakia (1990-1992)

by Anna Campione

With the collapse of the one-party system, in the last months of 1989, and the transition to a parliamentary democracy of a Western type, the new Czechoslovakian political leadership introduced a new system of representation. The previous one was better suited to the non-competitive nature of elections in communist Czechoslovakia, but was unsuitable for a multiparty system.

The first part of this note describes the electoral laws for the 1990 and 1992 political elections adopted by the Federal Assembly and the influence of electoral systems on the party system.

The author, then, makes a comparison between the 1990 and 1992 political elections and analyses the birth of the Czechoslovakian party system and its transformations after the 1990 political elections. The new party system displays a remarkable fluidity, indicative of its lack of consolidation.

In the competition among political parties two cleavages have prevailed: a social cleavage, as epitomized by the issue of economic privatization, and the national cleavage. Each party had to express its views about social-economic reforms and the national question, namely the structure of the Czechoslovakian State.

The note is provided by an appendix describing briefly the main Czech and Slovak political parties and their manifestos.

Party Identification in Italy: Two Indexes in Use

by Stefano Palma

The article deals with the possibility of transferring the concept of party identification from the United States political context, where it first originated, to the Italian one. The problems related to the redefi-

dition of the indicators are here discussed in order to use this concept in a situation which is different for its historical, social and institutional background.

Using data from the research project «Political culture in Southern Europe», the author emphasizes the heterogeneity of attitudes and political orientations included in the notion of party identification in Italy and builds a typological index in order to distinguish two different ways of being identified. The one represents an instrument to guide those citizens who lack of information and cultural resources in the perception of the political actors and in their electoral decision, while the other involves a belonging that, starting from well-structured political orientations, reaches a party and recognizes it as a force able to give general expression to the individual identity. Two ways of party identification that share the same political behaviours, despite involving electors with different features and outlining different relationships between electors and their parties.